

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Office Action of August 19, 2008 in which claims 1-40 were rejected.

Amended independent claim 1

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

“
A method comprising
receiving defining a packet flow identifier associated to a at
least one multicast/broadcast multimedia service or a group of terminals over a Gb
interface to create a packet flow context for said multicast/broadcast multimedia
service or a group of terminals,
creating the a packet flow context for said multicast/broadcast
multimedia service or group of terminals identified by said packet flow identifier,
and
transferring service data of the multicast/broadcast multimedia
service over the a Gb interface by utilizing said packet flow context ~~for routing the~~
~~service data of the multicast/broadcast multimedia service from a first network~~
~~entity to a second network entity.”~~

Amended claim 1 comprises the following features:

F1) receiving a packet flow identifier associated to a multicast/broadcast multimedia service or a group of terminals over a Gb interface to create a packet flow context for said multimedia service or a group of terminals

F2) creating a packet flow context for said multicast/broadcast multimedia service or group of terminals identified by said packet flow identifier

F3) transferring service data of the multicast/broadcast multimedia service over the Gb interface by utilizing said packet flow context

D1 discloses that

“...a PDSN 202 may generate a Flow_Code and MCS_Ref per multicast information flow based on a request by one or more MS 206 to join a multicast from a particular CS (e.g., CS1 110). The Flow_Code may be a globally unique identifier generated from information about an IP multicast flow (e.g. from the components of a filter describing the flow) using, for example, a well defined (e.g., standardized) procedure...The PDSN 202 may provide the Flow_Code and MCS_Ref to the BS/PCF 204 and the MCS_Ref to the MS 206 in response to the MS 206 request to join a multicast session.” (col. 7 lines 11-42)

It seems that in D1 a base station including packet control functions (BS/PCF) may receive an identifier (Flow_Code) associating to a multicast information flow from a packet data serving node (PDSN), but the BS/PCF does not receive the generated identifier in order to create any packet flow context for a multicast/broadcast multimedia service or group of terminals on the basis of a packet flow identifier. Also, the identifier is not received from a core network over a Gb interface as described in the current invention of the application.

Therefore, D1 does not seem to disclose feature F1.

Next, D1 reveals that

“The PDSN 202 may provide the Flow_Code and MCS_Ref to the BS/PCF 204 and the MCS_Ref to the MS 206 in response to the MS 206 request to join a multicast session. The BS/PCF 204 may then store a list of Flow_Codes for which there are bindings created at that specific BS/PCF 204 along with the mapping from Flow_Codes to MCS_Refs. The BS/PCF 204 may then allocate a radio channel for the multicast session and generate a Radio_Params identifier including the radio

parameters needed by the MS 206 to tune to the allocated radio channel. The MCS_Ref sent to the MS 206 may then be used by the MS 206 to find the Radio_Params that applies to a specific multicast flow. The multicast flow may be transmitted to the MS over a radio broadcast resource (or channel) or a normal channel designated for a specific MS 206.” (col. 7 lines 40-54)

According to D1, it seems that a radio access network stores mappings from Flow_Codes to MCS_Refs and generates MS radio paramers, but there is nothing which hints that the BS/PCF creates the packet flow context for multicast/broadcas multimedia service or terminal group identified by the packet flow identifier.

So, D1 also does not seem to disclose feature F2.

Then, D1 represents that

“The multicast flow may be transmitted to the MS over a radio broadcast resource (or channel) or a normal channel designated for a specific MS 206. Some examples of Radio_Params may include the transmission frequencies of the radio broadcast channel, codes used in transmission on the radio broadcast channel, etc. Essentially the radio transmission information necessary for the MS receiver to be able to receive and decode data transmitted on the radio broadcast channel...If the multicast is to be broadcast to the MS206, the BS/PCF 204 transmits the multicast flow on the channel specified by the Radio_Params and the MS 206 (or any MS coupled to the BS/PCF) would tune to this channel over which the BS/PCF is broadcasting the multicast.” (col. 7 line 51-col. 8 line 7)

In D1 it seems that the BS/PCF receives the multicast flow from the PDSN and transmits it to the mobile station (MS), but one can not find any packet flow context utilisation in a multicast/broadcast multimedia service data transmission over the Gb interface.

D1 does not seem to disclose either feature F3.

Consequently, D1 does not disclose the method according to amended method claim 1.

There is no hint in D1 or D2/D3 to combine these documents for achieving the method according to amended claim 1.

If teachings of D2, which describes a Gb interface and the creation of the PDP context, or D3 are combined with the teachings of D1, if it is possible at all, the combination is still silent of same features F1-F3.

So, the combination of D1 and D2/D3 does not disclose the method according to amended claim 1.

The applicant hopes that the amended claims are now in order for allowance.

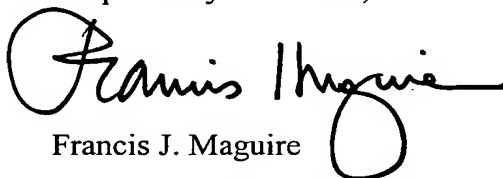
However, if the argumentation and the claim amendments do not conduct to the allowance, the applicant kindly asks the examiner to clearly indicate details creating a basis for a new rejection from the cited documents.

Amended dependent claims 29, 32, and 33

Claims 29, 32, and 33 have been amended in view of the comments in the Office Action for fulfilling the requirements of 35 USC § 112.

The objections and rejections of the Office Action of August 19, 2008, having been obviated by amendment or shown to be inapplicable, withdrawal thereof is requested and passage of claims 1-2, 5-6, 9, 17, 20-48 to issue is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Francis J. Maguire". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

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